

SIX FLAGS NEW ENGLAND	
SUBJECT: EMPTY DRUMS	SAFETY REFERENCE MANUAL
SECTION: 12	
EFFECTIVE: January 2016	SUPERSEDES: ALL PREVIOUS

## **12.1 PURPOSE**

To establish procedures for handling and disposing empty drums and containers.

## **12.2 POLICY**

All empty drums and containers must be handled appropriately and with care as outlined in this procedure.

## **12.3 PROCEDURE**

### **12.3.1 Determination**

A drum or container shall be determined to be empty only when:

- A. the container is as clean as possible by the normal means used to remove material
- B. no more than one inch of material remains on the bottom of the container
- C. no more than three percent (3%) by weight remains in containers with total capacity greater than 110 gallons

### **12.3.2 Handling**

Empty containers must be handled with caution. Although drums or containers may be empty, residues of materials may still be capable of causing the same health and safety problems identified on the label and in the MSDS.

The following procedures should be followed when handling empty drums or containers.

- A. An empty container (i.e., can, drum, sprayer bottle) can be refilled with the same material originally contained therein provided that:
  - 1. the lid and container are in-good condition
  - 2. the container is appropriate (i.e., safety cans for flammable liquids)
  - 3. an acceptable label is provided (i.e., either the existing label is appropriate and undamaged or the old label is removed or covered and a new label prepared)

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- B. Reusing containers for different chemicals is prohibited.

**IF THERE IS ANY QUESTION AS TO WHETHER A CONTAINER SHOULD BE REUSED, IT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE SAFETY DEPARTMENT PRIOR TO USE.**

- C. Spray cans and empty containers holding 5 gallons or less that cannot be reused should be disposed of along with other non-hazardous solid wastes in the Park dumpsters. The material must be solidified or evaporated before disposal.

Empty steel drums should be crushed and placed in the scrap metal recycling bin with the approval of the recycler.

**UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD 55 GALLON CONTAINERS BE CUT WITH BLADES, CUT WITH TORCHES, USED FOR TRASH CANS OR FOR BARBECUE. RESIDUES AND VAPORS REMAINING IN THE CONTAINER COULD IGNITE AND CREATE SERIOUS HEALTH AND SAFETY RISKS.**

Do not give empty drums to employees for personal use.